

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the applications:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
  - (a) the nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO: 13;
  - (b) the nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO: 19;
  - (c) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 14;
  - (d) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 20,
  - (e) a nucleic acid molecule that is the complement of any of (a)-(d) above.
2. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule that is SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 19.
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of: nucleotides 1-1689 of SEQ ID NO: 13 and nucleotides 1-1920 of SEQ ID NO: 13.
6. (canceled)
7. (previously presented) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.
8. (previously presented) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 2.
9. (canceled)
10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 5.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) [[A]] An isolated host cell comprising the vector of claim 7.

14. (currently amended) [[A]] An isolated host cell comprising the vector of claim 8.

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. (previously presented) An isolated host cell comprising the vector of claim 11.

Claims 18-25 (canceled)

26. (previously presented) A method of increasing the proliferation rate of a cell, comprising expressing in the cell the nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 19.

27. (previously presented) A method of increasing telomerase activity in a cell, comprising expressing in the cell the nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 19.

28. (previously presented) A method of decreasing telomerase activity in a cell, comprising expressing a variant nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO: 19 in a cell, wherein the variant nucleic acid has the codon for aspartic acid at position 868 of SEQ ID NO: 20 changed to a codon for alanine and the variant nucleic acid does not have telomerase protein 2 catalytic activity.

29. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a variant polypeptide, wherein the codon for aspartic acid at amino acid position 868 of SEQ ID NO: 20 is changed to a codon for alanine.

Claims 30-32 (canceled)

33. (currently amended) [[A]] An isolated host cell wherein the host cell is transformed or transfected ~~host cell expressing~~ to express a nucleic acid molecule comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 19.

Claims 34-35 (canceled)

36. (new) A non-human host cell comprising the vector of claim 7.

37. (new) A non-human host cell comprising the vector of claim 8.